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PCAccent for March 2009 - Vol. 2 No. 2  
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Welcome to PCAccent. This newsletter is an adjunct, an "accent" if you will, to the PCA's Web site and the PENnant. The Board of Directors will use PCAccent to keep you informed about PCA news and happenings.

PLEASE DO NOT REPLY TO THIS NEWSLETTER! For comments or questions, send email to PCA President Carla Mortensen. To subscribe or unsubscribe, please send email to Membership Coordinator Kim Sosin. Email addresses for Carla and Kim can be found on the PCA's Web site:  
<http://pencollectorsofamerica.com/>

If you have news that would benefit our members, please send an email to Deb Kinney - [debkinney@alumni.duke.edu](mailto:debkinney@alumni.duke.edu), the PCAccent Editor.

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\*\*\* Message from the President - Carla Mortensen \*\*\*  
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Website update:

After having our new website up and running for six weeks, I am happy to report that our newly revamped cyber-presence is alive and well. We continue to refine some of the back-end functionality dealing with membership services, but the front end is seeing steady use by members.

Shortly we will have five years' archives of the PENnant available for perusal on the site. In addition, we are in negotiations with a European pen club to share resources and website archives with them.

Here's where we could really use help from members. We urge you to share your informative links with us. See "Web Bookmarks" under the Library tab at the top of the page. Soon we will have written a FAQ for submitting other types of materials to the library archives. We truly hope this website will become a valuable tool in your continuing education with writing instruments.

Contributions:

I am pleased to report that some generous members (and others!) have found the PCA a worthy recipient of pens for "re-homing." We plan to have a spot on the website to offer these pens at very competitive prices to interested members. Joel Hamilton is the chair of this new committee which will also offer advice to members and non-members who wish to divest themselves of large collections. Our goal is to have that information available in the next several months.

Elections:

It's not too early to start thinking about the next cycle of elections to the Board of Directors. While the formal call will go out on July 1st, all members of the board stand ready to discuss "board life" with

any and all interested parties. Please contact any of us via the "PCA Directors" link under the Home tab on our website:

[www.pencollectorsofamerica.com](http://www.pencollectorsofamerica.com)

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\*\*\* Membership - Kim Sosin\*\*\*  
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PCA member registration on our website is growing daily. Remember, if you are a PCA member, you still should register on the web to become part of the online community for library materials and other communications and information. To do that, go to the "Members" tab and read the FAQ for registering if you are a member with an email address. Also, we have created an online archive for the PCAccent in the "registered members-only" section of the website. If you are interested in previous email newsletters, please find these under "Library."

Do you want to be included in our Annual Directory? To be sure you are recorded properly for this and other matters (like volunteer status), please read on. First, a little background. In some situations, we entered members into the database rather than having them create their own membership using the new web form. This includes a group of members who joined as we were migrating from the old to the new web, and also a group who paid by check. If we did not have information on (1) "Do you agree to have your name included in the PCA directory?", and (2) "Would you like to volunteer?" then we used the safe default, which is to enter "no." We would appreciate it if you would go to the web, register if necessary, and check your profile to be sure that your records reflect how you want those questions answered.

IMPORTANT: if you change mailing or email addresses, please go to the PCA website and update. This will ensure that you will receive the PENnant, PCAccent, and will be able to use your web membership.

Do you have collector friends who are not members of PCA? Please tell them that a new membership (defined as someone who has not been a member for at least two year) comes with a complimentary packet of three recent Pennants and a PCA pin. And if YOU are a new member and waiting for your new member packet, please contact Kim Svabik ([kim@pentiques.com](mailto:kim@pentiques.com)) for an update on when it will be shipped.

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\*\*\* PENnant News - Richard Jarvis \*\*\*  
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The Spring 2009 issue of The PENnant will be in the mail next week barring any unforeseen circumstances. The feature article this issue will be by Gerald Berg on vacuum filler Sheaffer pens and how they work, some of the repair theories for these pens and tips on caring for them once they are restored. We will also feature the last installment of our Diamond Point Pen Company series in addition to pen show coverage, the usual columns from our experts, and much more.

Calling all members....our backlog of articles is running low and it is folks like you who help to keep the PENnant issues full and interesting. So if you have an idea for the PENnant, please get in

touch with Richard - he would love to hear from you.  
[wordherder62@gmail.com](mailto:wordherder62@gmail.com)

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\*\*\* Volunteer Opportunities - Deb Kinney \*\*\*  
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Do you have some time and talent to help the PCA be all that it can be?

If so, please contact our outreach coordinator, Allan Quiat,  
[abquiat@yahoo.com](mailto:abquiat@yahoo.com), and let us know what you are interested in doing.  
Opportunities abound in the areas of membership, Pens for Kids (at the shows), PENnant article generation, etc. Let us hear from you!

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\*\*\* Upcoming Pen Shows - Deb Kinney \*\*\*  
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Chicago Pen show - April 30 - May 3 at the Westin-O'Hare Hotel. For more information contact Don Lavin - [Dlpens@aol.com](mailto:Dlpens@aol.com) 847-272-1996.

Visit the website at [www.chicagopenshow.com](http://www.chicagopenshow.com)

Boston Pen show - May 30 - May 31 at the Somerville Holiday Inn. For more information contact Rob Morrison [robmorrison@charter.net](mailto:robmorrison@charter.net) 828-712-2145. Visit the website at [www.vintagewriting.com](http://www.vintagewriting.com)

Triangle Pen show - June 11-14 at the Embassy Suites. For more information, Contact Terry Mawhorter [tmawhorter@columbus.rr.com](mailto:tmawhorter@columbus.rr.com) 614-619-5025. Visit the website at <http://www.raleighpenshow.com/>

Please let me know if you have local pen club news you want the members to know, like meeting dates/times, etc. [debkinney@alumni.duke.edu](mailto:debkinney@alumni.duke.edu)

Now you can view all upcoming pen shows on our new site:  
[http://www.pencollectorsofamerica.com/index.php?option=com\\_events&Itemid=37](http://www.pencollectorsofamerica.com/index.php?option=com_events&Itemid=37)

Looking for a great gift? Look no farther than a membership to the PCA.

[http://pencollectorsofamerica.com/index.php?option=com\\_acctexp&task=subscribe&Itemid=112](http://pencollectorsofamerica.com/index.php?option=com_acctexp&task=subscribe&Itemid=112)